



City of Arts & Innovation

News Release

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City of Riverside To Observe First Citywide 9/11 Day Of Service

Citywide event brings together government, business, local organizations to honor first responders

RIVERSIDE, Calif. – The City of Riverside will host its first 9/11 Day of Service on Sept. 11 to remember the lives lost in the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001 and to honor our local first responders.

The citywide event will include a breakfast at City Hall that will raise funds for the local police and fire foundations, a recognition ceremony outside City Hall at 9:11 a.m., as well as a clean-up event, blood drives and CPR demonstrations across the city throughout the day. The day will conclude with a 6 p.m. closing ceremony at La Sierra University that will feature musical performances, partner and sponsor recognitions, and reflections on the day.

“This event featuring activities from one end of Riverside to the other is an opportunity for people to honor both the victims of 9/11 and the first responders who saved lives that day and in the days that followed,” Mayor Rusty Bailey said. “I encourage all Riversiders to take time out of their day on Sept. 11 to be a part of our local commemoration.”

Firefighters from Riverside travelled to New York shortly after the 2001 terrorist attacks to assist with rescue efforts and disaster relief. Local businesses, organizations and volunteers have recognized that contribution over the years, but this is the first year that the City of Riverside has put together the full day of activities.

The 6:45 a.m. fundraising breakfast sponsored by 88iMpact and AT&T will be held on the Grier Pavilion on the seventh floor of City Hall, 3900 Main Street, to benefit the Riverside Police Officers’ Association and the Riverside City Firefighters’ Association. Music will be provided by the Riverside King Saxophone Ensemble.

The UCR Pipe Band, sponsored by the Riverside Police Officers’ Association and the Riverside City Firefighters’ Association, will perform at City Hall at 8:30 a.m. A public Opening Ceremony will take place at 9:11 a.m. on the Franklin Stage outside City Hall at 9th and Main streets with a Presentation of the Colors by the Riverside Police and Fire Honor Guards. Students from local schools will perform the National Anthem and God Bless America.

“It’s appropriate that we begin our celebration not far from Fire Station 1, where the Fire Department maintains a section of a steel I beam from the World Trade Center itself,” said City Councilman Mike Gardner, who represents the downtown area and was part of the planning team for this year’s event. “That beam will be part of our opening ceremony, and just looking at it takes your breath away.”

At 11 a.m., Keep Riverside Clean & Beautiful, with sponsorship from Kleinfelder and All Saints’ Carden Academy, will conduct a clean-up event at Ramona Drive and Brockton Avenue.

More than 20 local businesses are sponsoring Thank You Lunches for each of the city’s Fire and Police Stations. The American Red Cross and LifeStream will hold blood drives and/or CPR demos at the following locations:

- All Saints’ Carden Academy, 3847 Terracina Drive, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- University Village, in front of the Regency 10 Theatres, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Riverside City College, corner of Terracina Drive and Mine’ Okubo Avenue, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Riverside City Hall, 3900 Main Street, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Galleria at Tyler, in front of the AMC Theatres, 2-7 p.m.
- La Sierra University, 4500 Riverwalk Parkway, 3-7 p.m.

More information about blood drives and CPR demonstrations can be found at www.Redcross.org/blood or www.LStream.org.

The Closing Ceremony at La Sierra University’s Glory of God’s Grace Plaza will include musical performances by LSU’s Music Department, the Riverside King Band and the La Sierra High School Band. Recognitions will be presented to all the partners and sponsors during the Closing Ceremony. The evening will end with a Reflection of the Day on campus.

“The Day of Service is really about bringing Riverside residents together, so it’s fitting that we spread our activities across the city,” said City Councilman Jim Perry, who represents neighborhoods in southern Riverside and has been part of the planning process for the event. “We look forward to welcoming residents from across Riverside at the closing ceremonies.”